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I HEREBY GERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON October 31, 2003

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Attorney for Applicant

DATE

Applicant

Chan, et al.

App. No.

09/720,965

Filed

June 20, 2001

Title

Novel Fluorescent Lanthanide Chelates

Grp./A.U.

1621

Examiner

P.A. Zucker

Docket No. :

P50800

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the non-final Office Action mailed on May 6, 2003, setting a three (3) month period for response ending August 6, 2003 ("Office Action"). A Petition to extend the time for response for a period of three (3) months is being transmitted herewith, such that this response is timely. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment and consideration of the accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

R marks/Argum nts begin on page 9 of this paper.